

8. (Amended) In combination with the connector assembly of claim 1, a printed circuit board inserted into the second opening of the second receptacle of the adapter, the printed circuit board having said second conductors engageable with the first conductors of the flexible circuit.

8. (Amended) In combination with the connector assembly of claim 1, including a second flat flexible circuit inserted into the first opening of the second receptacle of the adapter, the second flexible circuit having said second conductors engageable with said first conductors of the flexible circuit.

9. (Amended) In combination with the connector assembly of claim 1, including a plurality of discrete electrical wires inserted into the second opening of the second receptacle of the adapter, the discrete electrical wires having said second conductors engageable with said first conductors of the flexible circuit.

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed on April 15, 2002, the Examiner rejected claims 2-5 and 17-20 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Johnson '968 in view of Perino et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,234,820 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Johnson Patent No. 4,973,264.

The Applicants note with appreciation the Office Action of December 18, 2001. The allowance of claims 10-15 and the Examiner's allowance if rewritten in independent claims and any intervening claims. Independent claim 11 is allowable if rewritten in independent claim 11.

matter of the present application.